

INFANT RELINQUISHMENT AND QUESTIONNAIRE

You were not prepared to have a baby.

Unsure what to do?

Leaving your newborn in a safe place is an option.

Information hotlines:

Maternal and Child Health Hotline: 1-800-722-2295

<https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/mch/index.htm>

Safe Place for Newborns

Crisis Number: 1-877-440-2229

www.safeplacefornewborns.org

Under Wisconsin law, you can leave a newborn child under 72 hours old with a police officer, 911 emergency medical staff, or a hospital staff member without being arrested. You do not have to give your name or address to the person accepting the baby, unless the following situations are true:

1. The baby has been harmed; or
2. You are being forced by someone to give up the baby; or
3. The baby is more than 3 days old.

You can contact the County Human or Social Services Department in the county where you relinquished custody of the baby if you change your mind. Before the county will consider returning the baby to you, you must first prove you are the baby's parent. A genetic test can prove you are the parent.

If you are the parent, you must take a number of steps before the child may be returned to you, including:

- Meeting with a County Social Worker;
- Having the County worker visit your home or where you plan on living with the child;
- Providing information on why you gave up the baby;
- Providing information on the health of the baby;
- Providing information on your ability to care for the baby, including parenting skills;
- Providing information on anything that may keep you from caring for the baby; and
- Providing information on your relationship with the baby's other parent.

Based on all the information gathered, you might be required to receive help to make sure the child will be safe. The county and the court will make the final decision on whether or not it is safe for the child to be returned to you.

DCF is an equal opportunity employer and service provider. If you have a disability and need to access this information in an alternate format, or need it translated to another language, contact (608) 266-8787 (General) or (888) 692-1401 (TTY). For civil rights questions call (608) 422-6889 or (866) 864-4585 TTY (Toll Free).

QUESTIONS ABOUT YOU AND THE INFANT

Personal information you provide may be used for secondary purposes [Privacy Law, s. 15.04(1)(m), Wisconsin Statutes].

You do not have to complete this form or share any information with the person who accepted the infant.

We ask that you fill out this form to help us give the infant the best possible care now and in the future. However, if any of the situations listed below are true, you no longer have the right to keep your information private.

1. The infant has been harmed, or
2. You are being forced by someone to give up the infant, or
3. The infant is more than 72 hours old.

Please answer these questions as best you can and mail the form to the Bureau of Milwaukee Child Welfare in Milwaukee, or to the County Department of Human or Social Services in the county in which the infant was relinquished.

The infant was born on / /
(month) (day) (year)

The infant was born at about _____ ☐ in the morning ☐ in the afternoon ☐ at night.
(time)

The infant was born in _____, _____
(city) (state)

The infant is entirely or partly: (Check all that apply.)

- ☐ White
☐ Black or African-American
☐ American Indian or Alaska Native

What is the tribal affiliation?

- ☐ Asian
- ☐ Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander
- ☐ Other race - Specify: _____

☐ Yes ☐ No Were there any problems with the pregnancy or delivery? If "Yes" what were the problems?

Please provide any information about the infant's family's social and health histories that would be helpful to the future care of the infant. (For example, is there a history of heart disease, diabetes, asthma, allergies or seizures; did the mother use alcohol or other drugs during the pregnancy, etc.?) The information provided need not identify the parents of the child.